

ABSTRACT

A random number generating method uses: a plurality of unit circuits each having a first and a second logic circuit formed into an identical shape through an identical fabrication process and an amplifier circuit for forming a binary signal by amplifying a noise superposed on the differential voltage of threshold voltages of the first and the second logic circuits; and a signal variation detecting circuit for forming an output signal in response to variation in any of a plurality of binary signals outputted from the plurality of unit circuits, wherein a plurality of binary signals outputted from the signal variation detecting circuit are combined to generate a random number.